



Tuesday 12th January 2021

Dear Parents,

Provision of Free School Meals for Eligible Pupils - Week Commencing 12th January 2021 onwards

I am writing to confirm the following arrangements for the provision of Free School Meals. You will be aware that the government authorised the extension of the voucher scheme over the Christmas holidays and last week (i.e. week commencing 4th January) and you will have received your vouchers via Wonde.

Having issued the vouchers, we were then informed that our catering company would be providing 'food hampers' from this week onwards and so we placed orders for these in line with what the expectations were last week.

The food hampers, containing food for ten days, are arriving in school tomorrow and you will be able to collect these tomorrow between 3pm and 4pm or Thursday between 8.30am and 4pm. If there are extenuating circumstances and you are unable to collect your hamper(s) then please email us on office@barrowhedges.com.

We know that this provision isn't ideal and were therefore delighted to learn that, on Friday 8th January, the government updated its guidance and while it does make it clear that food parcels are the preferred approach, schools can opt to provide parents with vouchers.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/covid-19-free-school-meals-guidance/covid-19-free-school-meals-guidance-for-schools>.

As a result, I can confirm that Barrow Hedges will be reverting to the vouchers, via Wonde, with effect from 25th January.

If your child is attending school then they will obviously have their meal here and hampers or vouchers won't be provided.

Thank you for your ongoing support and keep safe and well.

Kind regards,

Mrs Louise Wood
Headteacher



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